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Tunstall Urban District Council.

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**MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1903.



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# Medical Officer's Report

For the year ending December, 1903.

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TO THE TUNSTALL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting my TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT. The steady improvement shewn in the conditions of health and mortality would have been more marked and indeed promised to establish quite a record, but for a sudden rise in the infantile mortality during the months of November and December, and for which the variable weather then experienced was in a great measure responsible.

## POPULATION.

Calculated to the middle of 1903, the population now amounts to 20,334, and the statistics in this report are based upon this estimate. No alteration has taken place in the acreage of the district which remains at 1,015 acres. The number of inhabited houses as per the census of 1901 was 3,768, and the average number of persons per house 5·2.

## BIRTHS.

739 Births have been registered during the year. Of these 371 are male births and 368 female births, and represent an annual rate of increase of 36·3 per 1,000 living. This shews a falling off to the extent of 4·5 when compared with the preceding year, and is also 4·3 less than the average rate for the past ten years. In addition I find that the interments of 49 still-born children from Tunstall district have been registered at the Cemetery.

## DEATHS.

373 Deaths (198 males and 175 females) have been registered as having actually occurred within the district. In addition, 12 persons (9 males and 3 females) belonging to Tunstall have died in Chell Workhouse; 3 girls and 1 man have died in the North Staffordshire Infirmary; and 3 children (2 girls and a boy) have died in the Isolation Hospital at Bradwell. These figures give an annual death rate of 18·3 per 1,000 of the estimated population in the former case, while the total deaths shew it as 19·2 per 1,000. For the previous year the rates were 19·1 and 21·3 calculated as above.

The lowest monthly rates were recorded in June and September, and the highest rates in November and December. The table herewith shews the death rate for the last ten years.

Year.	Population Estimated to Middle of each year.	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Deaths of Residents registered in Public Instit'ions in the District.	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to District	
		Num- ber	Rate	Under 1 year of age		At all Ages			Num ber	Rate
				Num ber	Rate per 1000 bi'ths reg.	Num ber	Rate			
1893	16065	640	39·8	132	206	321	19·9			
1894	16065	653	40·6	113	173	320	19·9			
1895	16362	644	39·3	186	288	428	26·1			
1896	16510	732	44·3	142	194	347	21			
1897	16658	665	39·9	156	234	349	20·9			
1898	16807	701	41·7	163	232	430	25·5			
1899	16956	700	41·2	126	181	383	22·5			
1900	18516	795	42·9	141	241	544	29·3			
1901	19492	708	36·3	156	221	455	23·3	22	455	23·3
1902	19962	816	40·8	145	177·6	396	19·8	30	426	21·3
Averages for years 1903-2	17339·	705	40·6	146	214	397	22·8			
1903	20334	739	36·3	135	182·7	373	18·3	19	392	19·2

## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

135 Deaths of children under one year have to be recorded. This number represents an infant mortality of

182·7 per 1,000 births registered. This is slightly higher than the rate for 1902, but is 31·3 lower than the average rate for the past ten years. This subject has engaged the serious attention of your Sanitary Committee during the year, and among other measures adopted with the view of bringing down the rate, I would especially commend the distribution of leaflets on "Feeding and Management of Infants" to each person registering a birth, as likely to bring about a happy result.

The high birth rate which is maintained in Tunstall has doubtless an intimate relation to the high infant mortality, but much good can be done by a system of instruction in the feeding of young children, and also in the best methods of nursing them during sickness.

The appointment of a Lady Inspector whose duties would include such instructions might be worthy of your consideration in the near future.

Every attention should be given to improvement of the dwellings of the working-classes, and more especially in the erection of new cottages, to the best methods of ventilation.

### ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

The death rate from Zymotic diseases, including under this heading, according to the Registrar General's classifications the following seven diseases, viz.: Small Pox, Measles, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Fevers, Whooping Cough and Diarrhœa, numbered 24, in which are included three deaths which took place at the Isolation Hospital. This is a great improvement over 1902, when 46 deaths were recorded. The rate works out at 1·18 per 1,000, as compared with 2·3 for the preceding year, and is, indeed, the lowest rate recorded during my experience as your Medical Officer. Diphtheria has caused 11 deaths and Diarrhœa 8 deaths. I am pleased to note that considerable attention has, during the year, been given to paving the back passages in different parts of the town, and trust this matter will be kept well in view during the coming year till the work is fully completed.



In common with the other pottery towns, Tunstall has had some experience of the epidemic of Small Pox. However, owing to the vigorous and generous measures adopted by your Sanitary Committee, the disease was limited to seven cases, and happily all ended in complete recovery.

### DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

have caused 68 deaths, of which 37 have been attributed to Convulsions in young children.

### DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

have caused 78 deaths, a decrease of 17 as compared with the preceding year. The deaths have occurred chiefly at the extreme ages of life, and at times when seasonal influences are mostly felt. This was especially the case in the months of November and December when Pneumonia and Bronchitis claimed many young children as victims. I am strongly of opinion that many of these children would have had a much better chance of recovery had their cases been handled in a more intelligent manner by the parents. Instead of being nursed in a comfortably warmed bedroom, the bulk of the cases are tended in the common living-room, having a fire on one side and a door opening out into the street or backyard on the other.

### CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES

have caused 46 deaths, a slight diminution when compared with the preceding year. Of this number one half have been attributed to Phthisis Pulmonates. The bulk of the victims to this disease have been workers in Pottery Manufactories, and while in some cases the cause of the disease may be traced to a want of purification in the home, in the majority the cause will be found in the ill ventilated, over heated and dusty condition of the room in which the sufferers were employed.

46 deaths have been registered under ill defined causes such as Marasmus, Congenital Debility and Inanition, and as the mortality is almost entirely among young children of the lower classes, the causes of the above are to be found in defective vigour of the parents, want of purification in the particular houses where such cases have occurred, and imperfections in the feeding and nursing of the children.

## VACCINATION.

431 children have been successfully vaccinated during the year. Re-vaccination has also been largely adopted during the outbreak of Small Pox.

## REMOVAL OF NIGHT SOIL AND ASHES.

This work has been most vigorously carried out and in my inspection of the back premises throughout the town, I have not observed a single instance of excessive accumulation.

Considerable progress has again been made in abolishing existing privies, no fewer than 285 having been converted into water closets, so that the time is rapidly approaching when the water borne system will be universal.

Careful attention has been given to the scavenging of the streets, and their cleanliness and tidy condition has become quite noteworthy.

## BACK ENTRIES.

Much attention has been given during the year to the paving of these entries, and but few now remain to be done.

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shews the number of cases of Infectious sickness notified during the year:—

Small Pox	...	...	7 cases
Diphtheria	...	...	67 „
Membranous Croup ..	...	...	5 „
Scarlet Fever	...	...	13 „
Enteric Fever	..	...	19 „
Erysipelas	...	...	25 „

All the cases of Small Pox, 20 cases of Diphtheria and 1 of Membranous Croup, 5 cases of Scarlet Fever and 10 of Enteric Fever were removed to hospital for treatment. When the patient remained at home isolation has been secured as far as practicable, personal advice given, and each house wherein attacks were notified has been thoroughly disinfected.

## WATER SUPPLY

is as usual. I have heard no complaints either with regard to the quality of the water or constancy and sufficiency of the supply.

## FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

I beg to submit my second Annual Report under the Factory and Workshop Act. Systematic visits have been paid to all the known workshops by myself and the Sanitary Inspector. In no instances were there any cases of overcrowding and ventilation everywhere was found to be quite satisfactory. Messrs. Scales have not yet been supplied with Sanitary conveniences. The work for providing ready exit in case of fire at Messrs. Garner's is being attended to.

**(A.) Classification and Inspection.**

Total No. of work- shops in the district, as per Register	} 102	Includ- ing	Tenement Workshops..	None	Not in- cluding	{ Domestic Factories. Workplaces.
			Domestic Workshops..	16		
			Retail Bakehouses ..	11		
			Laundries ..	None		
			Other Workshops ..	75		

Total No. of visits of inspection made during 1903, (a) M.O.H. 204 ;  
(b) Sanitary Inspector 204.

Note as to the chief } Boot Repairing.  
workshop industries } Tailoring.  
in the district } Dressmaking.

**(B.) Sanitation.**

	Workshops.
<b>Cleanliness</b> —General Condition .. ..	Good
„ No. of Notices served under P.H. Acts ..	None
„ No. of Notices to cleanse, under Sec. 2 ..	None
„ Legal Proceedings .. ..	None
<b>Air Space</b> —General condition .. ..	Good
„ No. of Notices to abate overcrowding ..	None
„ No. of Notices to affix card, Sec. 3 (4) ..	Five
„ Legal Proceedings .. ..	None
<b>Ventilation</b> —General condition .. ..	Good
„ No. of Notices under P.H. Acts .. ..	None
„ Legal Proceedings .. ..	None
<b>Means of Ventilation</b> —Any action under the new powers of Sec. 7 .. ..	No
<b>Drainage of Wet Floors</b> —Action under Sec. 8 ..	None



(C.) **Additional Sanitation for "Retail Bakehouses."** Sec. 97 to 102

No. of such premises in the district	} 11	Note as to their general sanitary condition	} Very good
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Action taken as to Retail Bakehouses during 1903 :—

	No. of defects found.
As to closets, etc., s. 97 .. ..	None
As to water cisterns, s. 97 .. ..	None
As to drain openings, s. 97 .. ..	None
As to limewashing, etc., s. 99 .. ..	None
As to sleeping places, s. 100.. ..	None

Any proceedings under Sec. 98 as to }  
retail bakehouses sanitarily unfit } None

(Ca) **Underground Bakehouses.** No. of such premises in District—None.

(D.) **Sanitary Conveniences.**

Date of adoption of Sec. 22 of the Public Health Acts Amended Act, 1890—March 11th, 1891

No. of defects discovered thereunder in } 2 { (a) Closets insufficient or unsuitable—2  
factories or workshops during 1903 } { (b) Closets not separate for sexes—None

No. of Notices issued under the Section during 1903—Two.

(F.) **Home Work.** Sections 107 to 115.

Total No. of Lists of Outworkers }  
received during 1903 } None.

(G.) **General.**

No. and nature of sanitary defects reported to the Authority by H.M. Inspectors during 1903	} 2	Insufficient means of exit in case of fire and W.C. accommodation for Males.
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Action taken in consequence—Notices served.

No. of infringements reported  
by Sanitary Authority to  
H.M. Inspector (e.g., s. 133)

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM PARTINGTON.

## Deaths Registered from all Causes during the Year 1903.

	AGES.											Totals.
	0	1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75	85	
	to 1	to 5	to 15	to 25	to 35	to 45	to 55	to 65	to 75	to 85	& up.	
I. Specific Febrile, or Zymotic Diseases ..	7	9	2	...	1	...	2	1	..	...	...	22
II. Parasitic Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
III. Dietic Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
IV. Constitutional Diseases	4	5	1	3	5	7	11	5	5	...	...	46
V. Developmental Diseases	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	13	3	38
VI. Local Diseases ...	66	23	1	7	18	24	25	23	23	3	...	213
VII. Deaths from Violence...	..	2	2	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	8
VIII. Deaths from Ill-Defined and Not Specified Causes	42	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	46
TOTALS.....	145	81	8	11	24	19	36	40	29	3	..	373

## SUMMARY.

No. of  
Deaths

I.—SPECIFIC FEBRILE, OR ZYMOTIC DISEASES.			
1. Miasmatic Diseases	...	...	13
2. Diarrhœal	...	...	8
3. Malarial	..	...	...
4. Zoogenous	...	...	...
5. Venereal	...	...	1
6. Septic	...	...	...
II.—PARASITIC DISEASES			...
III.—DIETIC DISEASES.			...
IV.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES			46
V.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES			38
VI.—LOCAL DISEASES.			
1. Diseases of Nervous System	...	...	68
2. Diseases of Organs of Special Sense	...	...	...
3. Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	31
4. Diseases of Respiratory System	..	...	78
5. Diseases of Digestive System	...	...	20
6. Diseases of Lymphatic System	...	...	...
7. Diseases of Gland-like Organs of Uncertain Use	...	...	...
8. Diseases of Urinary System	...	...	7
9. Diseases of Reproductive System	...	...	...
(a). Diseases of Organs of Generation	...	...	2
(b). Diseases of Parturition	...	...	4
10. Diseases of Bones and Joints	...	...	3
11. Diseases of Integumentary System	...	...	...
VII.—VIOLENCE.			
1. Accident or Negligence	...	...	7
2. Homicide	...	...	...
3. Suicide	...	...	1
4. Execution	...	...	...
VIII.—ILL-DEFINED AND NOT SPECIFIED CAUSES			46

## SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK

**Done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department during the  
year 1903 in the Urban Sanitary District of Tunstall.**

					Inspection and Observations made.	Formal Notices by Author- ity.	Nuis- ances Abated after Notice.
Dwelling- houses and Schools.	{	Foul Conditions	...	...	444	199	380
		Structural Defects	..	...	430	185	369
		Overcrowding	...	..	6	6	6
		Unfit for Habitation	...	...	...	...	...
	Lodging-houses (Inspected by Police)				...	..	...
	Dairies and Milkshops				48	...	...
	Cowsheds				70	...	...
	Bakehouses				33	...	...
	Slaughter-houses				195	...	...
	Canal Boats				106	8	8
	Ashpits and Privies repaired				230	91	230
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure				6	6	6
	Water Closets,				295	...	282
House Drainage	{	Defective Traps	...	..	31	...	31
		No Disconnection	...	...	41	...	41
		Other Faults	...	...	...	...	...
		Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...
	Pigsties				20	...	...
	Animals improperly kept				...	...	...
	Offensive Trades				12	...	...
	Smoke Nuisances				3	1	3
	Other Nuisances				...	...	...
	TOTALS					1970	496

Seizures of Unwholesome Meat (Surrendered)	...	...	...	Nos. 1766
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...
„ „ Found Adulterated	...	...	...	...
„ of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	...
„ „ Condemned as unfit for use	...	...	...	...

### PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	...	...	...	6
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	26
Schools ditto ditto	..	...	...	2
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...
Convictions ditto ditto	...	...	...	...
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	...	...	...	...
Convictions ditto ditto	...	...	...	...

Disinfectants have been supplied and freely used in any cases under this heading.

(Signed), J. F. ADDISON, Inspector of Nuisances.

Date 15th Jan., 1904

